Educational qualifications as above are applicable to both general and SC/ST candidates.

*For Sr. Telecom. Operating Asstt.:*

The Recruitment Rules to the cadre of Sr. Telecom. Operating Asstt. is in the process of finalisation.

(d) Relaxed standards for SC/ST applies where selection is done through the method of departmental examination. Qualifying standards for SC/ST candidats are 33 per cent marks as against 40 per cent for ICC candidates. There is further provision of reviewing the results of failed candidates who could not get 33 per cent marks subject to availability of vacancies.

**Repair of telecommunication poles and wires in Azamgarh District in U.P.**

2578. SHRI MOHD. MASUD KHAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to answer to Starred Question No. 22 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 27th July, 1993 and state:

(a) whether the repairs of telecommunication poles and wires which had been uprooted from Sikror to Martinganj, Tehsil, Pholpur in Azamgarh District of U.P. have since been carried out;

(b) if not, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) by when the repairs are likely to be carried out?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a): Yes Sir, the work is partly done.

(b) and (c) There is a proposal to open a new exchange at Chittepur, a place between Martinganj and Sikror. Some portion of poles and wires between Martinganj and Sikror is being utilised for local and junction lines for Chittepur Exchange. This work will be completed by 15-3-94. Rest of the spare line has already been removed.

**STD/ISD Booths lying idele in AIIM Delhi**

2579. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 3636 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 24th August, 1993 and state:

(a) how many applications are received so far from the educated unemployed handicapped girls and boys for allotment of idle PCO booths at A.I.I.M.S., what are their details and when their applications were received;

(b) whether it is a fact that some of these applications for allotment of these booths at A.I.I.M.S. to the educated unemployed handicapped girls were recommended by the Members of Parliament to whom PCO has already been sanctioned by the competent authority; if so, what are the details in this regard and the decision taken thereon; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that these booths have not been allotted so far to any one; if so, what are the specific reasons therefor and if allotted, the details of persons to whom these have been allotted, when their applications were received in the Ministry and the terms and conditions of allotment of these booths?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a): Three applications have been received

from the educated unemployed handicapped girls and boys for allotment of idle PCO booths at AIIMS as detailed below:

| S. No. | Name | Applications received on |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | Rohtak Prasad Srivastava | 22-12-93 |
| 2 | Satyavir Bahadur Saxena | 7-1-94 |
| 3 | Shri Mothi Lal . . . | 1-2-94 |

(b) No, Sir.

(c) No, Sir. workorder for allotment of STD/PCO to Sh. Rohtak Prasad Srivastava whose application was received on 22.12.93 has since been issued and the rest are under process of allotment.

The existing terms and conditions for allotment of STD/PCOs are given at Statement.

**Statement**

I. *GENERAL*:

1. *Eligibility*: Only educated unemployed persons are eligible to apply for allotment of STD/PCOs. They should produce an unemployment certificate from their local MPs/MLAs|Revenue authorities of the tank of Tehsildar and above/employment officer/Chairman or Member of Zilla Parishad/Panchayat or Village Pradhan or Secretaries of recognised Social Organisations like Rotary Club/Lions Club etc. who hve jurisdiction over the locality where the applicant resides the educational qualifications for the applicant are:—

(i) for rural areas: 8th or middle school pass and above.

(ii) for urban areas: atleast matriculate or High School and above.

Application is to be submitted in the prescribed proforma enclosing the unemployment certificate and agreeing to the terms and conditions prescribed by the Department of Telecom. for the operation of STD/PCOs.

2. *Selection of bonafide persons*: A Committee with a composition as given below will select the applicants of STD/PCOs after proper scrutiny and verification of bonafides. As a check against possible frauds, photocopy of the unemployment certificate may be sent by registered letters to the issuing authority with a covering letter requesting for getting it verified. The Committee will allot the available number of PCOs giving preference to following categories of persons:—

(a) Handicapped including blind persons.

(b) SC|ST applicants.

(c) Ex-servicemen|War widows.

(d) Retired DOT employees or their dependents.

(e) Dependents of Freedom Fighters.

(f) Charitable Institutions/Hospitals.

The Committee will be fully authorised to allot STD/PCOs and also decide the location of new PCOs.

*Composition of Committee*:

(a) The Committee for allotment of the new STD pay phones would consist as under:.... .... .... ....

(i) Head of the SSA—Chairman.

(ii) An Officer from the Finance and Accounts Wing of the Department working under the SSA Head such as AO|CAO etc.—Member.

(iii) Three Non-official members would be nominated by the Ministry for a tenure period of two years.

3. *Procedure for allotment:*

The Committee will meet atleast once every month depending on the amount of work relating to allotment of STD PCO to scrutinise and select the applications from the eligible persons for STD PCO allotment.

4. *Loan facility to STD|PCO allottees*

SSA Head will issue a certificate of allotment of STD PCO to the allottee to enable him to seek loan etc. from scheduled banks. SSA head will also provide all assistance in this regard.

5. *Extent of provision*

Upto 5 % capacity of the exchange lines is to be reserved for allotment of PCOs (STD and Local).

6. *Type of Exchange to which STD PCOs should be parented:*

STD PCOs should normally be parented to an Electronics Exchange only. In a place which is served by electro mechanical exchanges, a new 128 P C-DOT electronic exchange or an electronic exchange of a higher capacity with 16KHz homemetering capability can be opened and all STD Pay phones may be parented to this electronic exchange. The Call loggers working with these STD PCOs should be operated on 16 KHz cycle pulse from the parented electronic exchange.

7. *General conditions:*

(i) One applicant should be provided with only one STD payphone. However, the existing bulk franchisees will continue to operate as per terms and conditions of their existing agreement.

(ii) All STD Payphones should be so installed that they face public road/lane to allow free access to public.

(iii) The opening hours of such public telephones would be atleast from 6.00 a.m. to 10.00 p.m.

(iv) Terminal equipment used by the allottee should be interface approved and they should not be programmable locally. Simple call Loggers/Charge indicators manufactured by Hindustan Teleprinters Ltd. or other manufacturers which are interface approved by the department should be used. Use of step watch will not be permitted (List of approved charge indicators is being circulated separaterly).

(v) The allottee of STD PCO will be entitled to 20 paise per call unit upto 10,000 call units. 15 paise per call unit in the range of 10,000 to 20,000 call units and 10 paise per call unit beyond 20,000 call units as commission for the total number of call units made over a period of one month.

Procedure for recovery of security deposit and bills from STD PCO allottees will be as under;

Two accounts either in a Public Sector bank or in Post Office savings Bank will be opened per STD PCO allottee.

The first account will be opened in the name of Department of Telecom in which the allottee will deposit daily the entire collection of the day after deducting 20 paise per call unit upto 10,000 call units, 15 paise per call unit in the range of 10,000 to 20,000 call units and 10 paise for call unit beyond 20,000 call units as commission for the total number of call units made over a period of one month. The A.O. (T.R.) will monitor the proper deposit of the amounts by co-ordinating with bank/post office and will also ensure that all bills in respect of these STD PCOs are timely adjusted from above account. The other account will be in the name

of the allottee and it will be pledged to the President of the Union of India. The allottee will deposit 5 paise per call unit in this account daily towards available nearby, the above depoits continue to be made till the amount becomes equal to Rs. 5,000/- in respect of Urban STD PCOs or Rs. 600/- in the case of rural STD PCOs or average one month revenue whichever is higher. In rural areas, if the facility of Bank or Post Office is not available nearbly, the above deposits can be made weekly. The telephone inspectors and JTOs in the filed will periodically inspect and check the passbooks of PCO allottees for prompt depositing. Defaulters, if any, in this regard should be brought to the notice or higher authorities for taking action against them. Lapses on the part of the field staff during inspection will be dealt with severe penalties.

(vi) The security deposit can also be deposited in each in one instalment or be in the form of a Bank Guarantee.

(vii) Rates of pulses should be displayed prominently by the allottee of STD PCO for all important stations in the country and all stations with in 200 Kms.

(viii) The applicants have to apply in the prescribed form for the allotment of STD PCOs.

(ix) The applicant should sign an agreement in the prescribed form with the Telecom Authority when an STD PCO is allowed to him.

(x) Incoming call facility will be allowed on all STD PCOs.

(xi) Shifting of STD PCOs within the local area is permitted. Normal shifting charges applicable to DEL will be levied.

(xii) Periodical surprise checks should be done to see that the allottee charges customers as per the guidelines given by Department of Telecom.

(xiii) Guidelines for applying for PTs and rules governing them should be published in the commercial information pages of the telephone directory.

(xiv) Periodical advertisements may be inserted in local newspapers when sufficient nuber of applicants are not forthcoming.

II. *RURAL*

Apart from the general conditions the following guidelines have to be followed in respect of rural STD PCO operation. The rural STD PCO is defined for this purpose as one working in an exchange system which has a total capacity of 512 lines and less:

1. A minimum guaranteed revenue per PCO per month in the case of rural STD PCOs is fixed as Rs. 100/-

2. A security deposit of Rs. 600/- based on six months guaranteed revenue or monthly average revenue whichever is higher has to be deposited by the allottee of the STD rural PCO. This average revenue is calculated on the basis of the revenue of the previous six months.

3. Weekly billing cycle would be followed for recovery of STD PCO charges.

III. *NON-RURAL (URBAN)*

Apart from the general conditions mentioned above, the guidelines detailed below have to be followed in respect of the STD PCOs scheme in Non-rural (Urban) areas:

1. At least one STD PCO may be made available for about every 100 dwelling/Business Premises.

2. *STD PCO Location*

While selecting the location for allotment of PCO, the SSA Head will consult the local bodies like Municipality, Public Institutions etc. to allocate convenient places for the PCO Booths. The important places given below should invariably be covered while selecting the location of PCO booths:

— Commercial Housing Societies.

— Resettlement Colonies.

— Government Colonies.

— Family Quarters of Defence Personnel.

— Students' Hostels.

— Bus Stands.

— Tourist Centres.

— Airports.

— Pilgrim Centres.

— Railway Stations.

— Charitable Institutions.

— Hospitals.

— Educational Institutions, Public Libraries etc.

4. A minimum guaranteed revenue per PCO per month to the Department in the case of Non-rural (Urban) STD PCOs is fixed as Rs. 1600/-

5. The amount of security deposit will be Rs. 5,000/- or an amount equal to the average monthly revenue whichever is higher. The average monthly revenue will be calculated on the basis of previous six months revenue.

6. Fortnightly billnig cycle will be followed for recovery of STD PCO charges. If the charges are heavy, weekly billing may be restorted to by local telecom. authority.

**Ban on recruitment in post offices**

2580. SHRI BRAHMADEO ANAND PASWAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:..

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been any recruitment ban in the operative side of post offices also; and

(b) if so, since when and what is the position now?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM) (a) and (b) Sir. In January, 1984 it was decided that no posts should bs created|no vacancies where recruitment action had not been taken, should be filled up for a specified period. However, exception was made in the case of most exceptional circumstances. Subsequently, the said order was relaxed in 1986 with the direction that recruitment may be made gainst vacancies arising due resignation, dismissal, removal or deputation. However, this should be done subject to abolition of posts found to be surplus as a result of review and pending such review posts should not be created filled up. Procedure for creation of posts was changed and the education of posts involved inter-Ministerial consultations.

**Waiting list for telephone connections in Central and South Delhi**

2581. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 798 given in the Rajya Sabha on the Ist March, 1994 and state:

(a) the date of registration for new telephone connections up to which wating list has been cleared so far categorywise and exchangewise; in